



MISSOURI VETERANS
COMMISSION

MISSOURI VETERANS

BENEFITS & RESOURCES GUIDE



BENEFITS & RESOURCE PORTAL
veteranbenefits.mo.gov



Dear Veterans, Military Members, and Families,

On behalf of the citizens of the State of Missouri, I want to extend my deepest gratitude to you for your service to our nation. The dedication and sacrifices made by Veterans, military members, and their families are the foundation of the freedoms we all cherish and hold dear. Your courage, strength, and resilience have shaped the very fabric of our nation, and we are forever indebted to you and your family.

As Governor, I am committed to ensuring that Missouri remains a state where Veterans and their families are not only supported and valued, but also receive the benefits they have earned. Your service and sacrifice have inspired generations, and it is our duty to ensure that you have access to the tools and resources to thrive, just as you have helped our nation thrive. This benefits guide is a resource designed to connect you with helpful contacts, essential services, and valuable programs offered in the State of Missouri. It is my hope that this guide will empower you to take full advantage of these benefits to improve your quality of life and ensure you have the support you need.

It is an honor to serve as your Governor, and I thank you for your commitment, dedication, and service to our nation.

Sincerely,
Mike Kehoe
Governor



As the Executive Director of the Missouri Veterans Commission and a fellow Veteran, I am pleased to present the Missouri Veterans Benefits and Resource Guide. Our mission is to be the first choice in skilled nursing care; best choice in securing benefits; and proven choice in a dignified resting place. Our team does an incredible job of acting out our mission by placing Veterans and their families in the center of our four programs; Veterans Cemeteries Program, Veterans Homes Program, Veterans Service Program, and Veterans Suicide Prevention Program.

This booklet is designed to bring together several benefits available by the State of Missouri and briefly cover related services provided by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). This benefits guide is a constant work in progress as new benefits become available to Veterans and their families. For all current benefits and resources available to Veterans and their dependents visit our Veterans Benefits and Resource Portal at veteranbenefits.mo.gov.

On behalf of the entire MVC team, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your service and sacrifice!

Sincerely,
Paul Kirchhoff
Executive Director
Missouri Veterans Commission



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veteranbenefits.mo.gov | 573-751-3779 | movets@mvc.dps.mo.gov

Missouri Veterans Commission (MVC) is a state agency established by Missouri statute to aid all Veterans, their dependents, and legal representatives. We provide information regarding the rights of Veterans and their dependents and assist Veterans in accessing their available benefits through state and federal government.

Our Mission

MVC is “Always on Mission” to serve Veterans as the first choice in skilled nursing care; best choice in securing benefits; and proven choice in a dignified resting place.

Our History

Missouri has a long tradition of honoring and serving its Veterans. This tradition started in 1897 when the State took over operations of the Federal Soldiers Home in St. James and the Confederate Soldiers Home in Higginsville. These homes were initially managed by the Board of Eleemosynary Institutions and later by the Department of Health and Welfare. In 1950 the Confederate Home closed, and in 1974 the Federal Home in St. James was transferred to the Division of Veterans Affairs.

In 1931, at the request of organized Veterans groups, the state legislature created the Office of the State Service Officer for counseling and assisting Veterans of WWI and earlier conflicts.

In 1974, the Omnibus Reorganization Act placed the Division of Veterans' Affairs within the Department of Social Services (DSS). The State Federal Soldier's Home and Office of State Service Officer remained separate entities until the Reorganization Act of 1974 combined the two, renaming the Home and establishing the Division of Veterans' Affairs within DSS.

As defined in the Omnibus State Reorganization Act of 1974, The Division of Veterans' Affairs, as provided in Chapter 42, RSMo., was transferred from DSS to the Department of Public Safety.

On August 28, 1989, the Division of Veterans Affairs' was replaced by the establishment of the Missouri Veterans Commission.

Today, MVC manages seven long-term skilled nursing homes, six state

Veterans cemeteries, provides benefits assistance through our Veterans Service Program and is working in collaboration with the Department of Mental Health to better understand and prevent Veteran suicide.



VETERANS SERVICE PROGRAM



Veteran Service Officers (VSO) provide counseling and assistance with compensation, pensions, education, life insurance, medical, and burial benefits. These trained professionals will also assist with completing and submitting claims applications to the VA to make sure all necessary documentation is attached. A VSO will maintain your case file in confidence and is always available to provide information, referrals, and represent claimants to the Veterans Benefits Administration.

MVC service officer locations can be found on the following pages as well as online at mvc.dps.mo.gov/service/service-officer.

If you do not have access to the internet, you may call (573) 751-3779, and a MVC team member will assist you in finding your local Veterans Service Officer. Many Veterans Service Organizations also have service officers available.



VETERANS
BENEFITS & RESOURCES PORTAL
veteranbenefits.mo.gov



CENTRAL REGION VSO OFFICES



194 Eastlawn Ave., Suite E
St. Robert, MO 65580
573-451-2533

Counties Serviced: Dallas, Laclede, Pulaski, Texas, Webster, Wright



2639 South Jefferson Ave.
Lebanon, MO 65536
417-532-6754

Counties Serviced: Dallas, Laclede, Webster



515 South Kentucky St.
Sedalia, MO 65301
660-530-5544

Counties Serviced: Benton, Cooper, Pettis, Saline



1000 City Parkway
Osage, MO 65065
573-348-2641

Counties Serviced: Camden, Miller, Morgan



3417 Division Dr. Suite 5
West Plains, MO 65775
417-256-3452

Counties Serviced: Howell, Oregon, Shannon



620 N. Jefferson St.
St. James, MO 6559
573-899-6013

Counties Serviced: Crawford, Dent, Maries, Phelps



1107 Kingshighway
Rolla, MO 65401
573-899-6026



NORTHEAST REGION VSO OFFICES



-  909 Washington St.
Chillicothe, MO 64601
Counties Serviced: Carroll, Grundy, Livingston, Mercer
-  203 North 6th St.
Hannibal, MO 63401
573-248-2550
Counties Serviced: Clark, Lewis, Marion, Ralls, Shelby
-  2105 E Normal St., Room 131
Kirksville, MO 63501
660-785-2460
Counties Serviced: Adair, Knox, Putnam, Schuyler, Scotland, Sullivan
-  3029 Country Rd. 1325
Moberly, MO 65270
660-263-4960
Counties Serviced: Chariton, Linn, Macon, Monroe, Randolph
-  900 W. Nifong Blvd.
Columbia, MO 65203
573-817-4272/4273
Counties Serviced: Boone, Callaway, Howard
-  1500 Southridge Dr., Room 300C
Jefferson City, MO 65109
573-522-1416/4225
Counties Serviced: Cole, Moniteau, Osage
-  #1 Veterans Dr.
Mexico, MO 65265
573-567-8111
Counties Serviced: Audrain



NORTHWEST REGION VSO OFFICES



1111 Euclid Ave.
Cameron, MO 64429
816-649-1684

Counties Serviced: Caldwell, Clinton, Daviess, Deklab, Gentry, Harrison



615 E 13th Street, Ste. 511A
Kansas City, MO 64106
816-889-2015/2123/5882

Counties Serviced: Jackson



1300 Veterans Rd., Room F-105
Warrensburg, MO 64093
660-543-7930 | 660-429-4692

Counties Serviced: Cass, Henry, Johnson, Lafayette



15301 East 23rd St.
Independence, MO 64055
816-325-5883

Counties Serviced: Clay, Ray



525 Jules St., Room 314
St. Joseph, MO 64501
816-387-2841

Counties Serviced: Andrew, Atchison, Buchanan, Holt, Nodaway, Platte, Worth



SOUTHEAST REGION VSO OFFICES



-  901 Progress Dr., Suite #102
Farmington, MO 63640
573-218-6130
Counties Serviced: Iron, Madison, Reynolds, St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve
-  3675 W Outer Rd, Room 104
Arnold, MO 63010
636-865-5215
Counties Serviced: Jefferson, Franklin, Washington
-  106 Arthur Ave., Suite C
Sikeston, MO 63801
573-472-5350
Counties Serviced: Mississippi, New Madrid, Scott, Stoddard
-  2400 Veterans Memorial Dr.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
573-986-4032/4033
Counties Serviced: Bollinger, Cape Girardeau, Perry
-  1903 Northwood Dr., Suite 6
Poplar Bluff, MO 63901
573-778-9689
Counties Serviced: Butler, Carter, Dunklin, Pemiscot, Ripley, Wayne



SOUTHWEST REGION VSO OFFICES



➤ 2720 Shepard of the Hills Exwy
Branson, MO 65616
417-297-6099

Counties Serviced: Christian, Douglas, Ozark, Stone, Taney

➤ 1600 S Hickory St., Room A105
Mt. Vernon, MO 65712
417-572-2128

Counties Serviced: Barry, Lawrence

➤ 730 South Wall Ave., Room 6
Joplin, MO 64801
417-629-3928/3538

Counties Serviced: Barton, Jasper, McDonald, Newton

➤ 621 E Highland Ave., Suite 4
Nevada, MO 64772
417-448-1133

Counties Serviced: Bates, Cedar, Hickory, St. Clair, Vernon

➤ 1515 East Pythian St.
Springfield, MO 65809
417-895-6532

Counties Serviced: Dade, Greene, Polk



ST. LOUIS REGION VSO OFFICES



- 201 North 2nd St., Room 562
St. Charles, MO 63301
314-421-8601/8622
Counties Serviced: St. Charles

- 9700 Page Ave., Room 1-110
St. Louis, MO 63132
314-421-8654 | 8637
Counties Serviced: St. Louis City

- 10600 Lewis & Clark Blvd, Room 102
St. Louis, MO 63136
314-421-8637 | 8654
Counties Serviced: St. Louis

- 111 Steinhagen Rd.
Warrenton, MO 63383
636-202-6215
Counties Serviced: Gasconade, Lincoln, Montgomery, Pike, Warren



**VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER
LOCATOR**

mvc.dps.mo.gov/service/serviceofficer



VETERANS HOMES PROGRAM



The Missouri Veterans Homes Program manages a total of 1,238 beds that provide long term skilled nursing care in compliance with 157 Federal Department of Veterans Affairs regulations. The Homes are located in Cameron, Cape Girardeau, Mexico, Mount Vernon, St. James, St. Louis, and Warrensburg.

Each of our seven long-term care facilities offers a community environment for Veterans with a best-in class team that not only takes care of their physical and health needs but also their psycho-social needs. At all our locations you will find:

- Licensed nursing home administrator
- Registered nurses on duty 24 hours per day
- Physician care
- Physical, speech, occupational and recreational therapy
- Prescription and non-prescription medications
- Cosmetology and barber services
- Maintenance, environmental, laundry, and dietary specialists
- Medical and Personal Care Supplies
- Social Services

To be eligible for admission into a Missouri Veterans Home a individual must:

- Meet criteria established by the VA for Veterans status
- Require 24-hour skilled nursing health care services
- Be a citizen of Missouri who has maintained a physical residency in Missouri for one hundred eighty (180) consecutive days immediately prior to application
- Not appear on any sex offender registry
- Not have a criminal history including conviction or guilty plea/nolo contendere in any state (which if committed in Missouri would be) a Class A or B felony violation
- The Veteran's condition must be such that the Home has the resources to care for them



VETERANS HOMES LOCATIONS

**Missouri Veterans Home - Cameron | 816-632-6010**

1111 Euclid Ave.
Cameron, MO 64429

**Missouri Veterans Home - Cape Girardeau | 573-290-5870**

2400 Veterans Memorial Dr.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

**Missouri Veterans Home - Mexico | 573-567-8106**

#1 Veterans Dr.
Mexico, MO 65265

**Missouri Veterans Home - Mt. Vernon | 417-466-7103**

1600 S Hickory St.
Mt. Vernon, MO 65712

**Missouri Veterans Home - St. James | 573-265-3271**

620 N. Jefferson
St. James, MO 65559

**Missouri Veterans Home - St. Louis | 314-340-3689**

10600 Lewis & Clark Blvd
St. Louis, MO 63136

**Missouri Veterans Home - Warrensburg | 660-543-5064**

1300 Veterans Rd
Warrensburg, MO 64093



VETERANS CEMETERIES PROGRAM



From the initial concept of a Veterans Cemetery program, one operational philosophy has remained constant; to honor our Veterans for their service and sacrifice. With that goal in mind, the Missouri Veterans Commission has created a network of Veterans cemeteries so that every Missouri Veteran will have reasonable access to a Veterans cemetery. At this time, five cemeteries are in operation: Bloomfield, Ft. Leonard Wood, Higginsville, Jacksonville, and Springfield.

Veterans, spouses, and dependent children may be eligible for burial and cemetery benefits by the State of Missouri and Federal Government. In certain circumstances, Burial Allowances is available from the Veteran Benefits Administration and are partial reimbursements for an for burial and funeral costs.

Families should make these VA and state burial benefits arrangements through their funeral provider as neither the VA nor the State of Missouri make funeral arrangements or perform cremation.

There is no charge for any of the services provided. These services include:

- Opening and closing of the grave
- Provision of a concrete grave liner
- Upright granite headstone
- Full military honors for the Veteran
- Perpetual care of the grave site

Those who choose cremation have the choice of in-ground burial or placement within a columbarium niche. Pre-registration for future planning purposes is also avaialble for Veterans and their eligible family members.

Burial benefits available for Veterans buried in a private cemetery include:

- Government headstone or marker
- Burial flag
- Presidential Memorial Certificate

There are no federal benefits available to spouses and dependents buried in a private cemetery.

Any item or service not listed and obtained from a funeral home will be at the family's expense. Please contact a State or National Veterans Cemetery for a full listing of state and federal burial benefits.

Apply for burial benefits online at my.mo.gov/gsp?id=vcp_preapplication



VETERANS CEMETERIES LOCATIONS



MISSOURI VETERANS CEMETERIES LOCATIONS

-  **Missouri Veterans Cemetery- Bloomfield | 573-568-3871**
17357 Stars & Stripes Way
Bloomfield, MO 63825
-  **Missouri Veterans Cemetery - Ft. Leonard Wood | 573-774-3496**
25350 Highway H
Waynesville, MO 65583
-  **Missouri Veterans Cemetery - Higginsville | 660-362-6111**
20109 Business Highway 13
Higginsville, MO 64037
-  **Missouri Veterans Cemetery - Jacksonville | 660-372-6024**
1479 County Rd. 1675
Jacksonville, MO 65260
-  **Missouri Veterans Cemetery - Springfield | 417-823-0252**
5201 South Southwood Rd.
Springfield, MO 65804

NATIONAL VETERANS CEMETERIES LOCATIONS

-  **Jefferson Barracks | 314-340-3689**
10600 Lewis & Clark Blvd
St. Louis, MO 63136
-  **Jefferson City (Closed to new interments) | 314-845-8320**
1024 East McCarty St.
Jefferson City, MO 65101
-  **Springfield | 417-881-9499**
1702 East Seminole St.
Springfield, MO 65804

For information on federal education benefits visit va.gov/education or call 880-GIBILL1 (888-442-4551). You can also check with the Financial Aid Office at your school.

VETERANS EDUCATION & TRAINING

dese.mo.gov/adult-learning-rehabilitation-services/veterans-education |
877-530-2765

Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education (DESE) oversees a variety of Veterans Education programs for the State of Missouri and the VA.

A+ SCHOOLS PROGRAM

A student who is an active-duty military dependent, or a dependent of a retired military member who relocates to Missouri within one year of retirement from active duty status is exempt from the three-year-attendance requirement for the A+ Schools Program.

OPERATION RECOGNITION PROGRAM (HONORARY DIPLOMA)

mvc.dps.mo.gov/docs/services/honoraryhsdiploma.pdf

The Operation Recognition program provides honorary high school diplomas for Veterans and civilian prisoners of war (POWs) who left high school before graduation to serve in the military. Candidates must submit an application to MVC. The application form is available on the Veterans Benefits and Resource Portal. Veterans who have received their high school equivalency are exempt.

MISSOURI RETURNING HEROES EDUCATION ACT

dhewd.mo.gov/ppc/grants-scholarships/returning-heroes-act

Honorably discharged Veterans who served in a combat action zone and who are residents of Missouri may be eligible for the Missouri Returning Heroes Education Act. This allows eligible Veterans to attend Missouri public colleges or universities and limit their tuition to \$50 per credit hour, once all other financial aid is taken into account, when enrolled in an undergraduate program. If enrolled in a graduate program, the tuition is not to exceed 30%

of the cost of tuition and fees at a Missouri public college or university. For more information or to verify eligibility, contact Missouri Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development.

WARTIME VETERAN'S SURVIVOR GRANT PROGRAM

dhewd.mo.gov/ppc/grants/war-time-vet-survivor

Wartime Veteran's Survivor Grants are available annually to children and spouses of Veterans whose deaths or injuries were a result of combat action or were attributed to an illness that was contracted while serving in combat action, or who are receiving a service connected disability compensation rating of 80% or higher as a result of injuries or accidents sustained in combat action since September 11, 2001.

EMPLOYMENT & BUSINESS

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

careeronestop.org/Veterans/BenefitsAndAssistance/unemployment-benefits.aspx

When a Service member is separated from active duty and has not been unfavorably discharged, the service member may be eligible for unemployment compensation. Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Service members (UCX) is a program mandated by federal law but administered by state governments. The Department of Labor's (DOL) Unemployment Insurance (UI) programs provide unemployment benefits to eligible workers who become unemployed through no fault of their own, and meet certain other eligibility requirements, such as able to work, available for suitable full-time work, and be seeking work.

VETERANS EMPLOYMENT SPECIALISTS

jobs.mo.gov/jobseeker/missouri-job-centers

The Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development has team members, commonly referred to as "Veterans' Employment Specialists," in the Missouri Job Centers throughout the state to specifically assist eligible veterans, transitioning service members, and spouses. Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program (DVOP) specialists provide individualized career services, such as developing job search strategies and researching employment and training options, as well as referrals to job opportunities and needed

resources. Local Veterans' Employment Representatives (LVER) advocate for the hiring of veterans and other military-connected individuals and develop job opportunities through outreach to individual businesses and business organizations.

PRIORITY FOR QUALIFIED VETERAN EMPLOYMENT BY THE STATE

State government agencies which administer federally funded employment and training programs for Veterans shall give priority to qualified Veterans and other eligible persons.

MISSOURI STATE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (MOSERS)

Veterans may be eligible to purchase up to four years of active duty military service credit performed prior to last becoming a member of MOSERS. This includes active duty military training. If you elect to purchase your active duty military service, you must purchase all that you served (total months and days) up to a maximum of four years.

SHOW ME HEROES PROGRAM

800-728-5627

Show-Me Heroes offers on-the-job training to help businesses save costs while preparing new hires for vital jobs. Most Service Members who are honorably discharged and are within five years of their discharge date or spouses of currently deployed or recently discharged eligible service members within five years of their discharge date can participate.



TRICARE/DEERS

TRICARE West Region | 844-874-9378 | Health Net Federal Services, LLC
| tricare.mil/west

MISSOURI DEERS OFFICES

Cape Girardeau | 573-339-6200

Jefferson City | 573-638-9500, ext 37731

St. Louis - Jefferson Barracks | 314-416-6619

St. Joseph | 816-236-3330

VA MEDICAL CENTERS & COMMUNITY BASED OUTREACH CLINICS

va.gov/health | 877-222-8387

VA Healthcare System offers a wide range of health, support, and facility services for Veterans. CBOCs are VA-operated medical facilities throughout Missouri that offer primary care services to eligible Veterans.

COLUMBIA | 573-814-6000

Harry S. Truman Memorial
800 Hospital Dr.
Columbia, MO 65201-5297

CAMDENTON | 573-317-9660

30 Lakeview Dr.
Camdenton, MO 65020

COLUMBIA | 573-814-6263

3425 Buttonwood Dr.
Columbia, MO 65201

JEFFERSON CITY | 573-635-0233

3430 W Edgewood Dr.
Jefferson City, MO 65109

KIRKSVILLE | 660-627-8387

506 Rosewood Dr.
Kirksville, MO 63501

MARSHFIELD | 417-468-1963

1240 Banning St.
Marshfield, MO 65706

MEXICO | 573-581-9630

3460 S Clark St.
Mexico, MO 65265

SEDALIA | 660-826-3800

981 Winchester Dr.
Sedalia, MO 65301

ST. JAMES | 573-265-0448

207 Matlock Dr.
St. James, MO 65559

WAYNESVILLE | 573-774-2285

700 GW Lane
Waynesville, MO 63090

FAYETTEVILLE, AR |

479-443-4301

Veterans HCS of the Ozarks
1100 North College Ave
Fayetteville, AR 72703

BRANSON | 417-243-2300

5571 Gretna Rd
Branson, MO 65616

JOPLIN | 800-691-8387

3015 S. Connecticut Ave
Joplin, MO 64804

SPRINGFIELD | 417-891-4800

1850 West Republic Rd
Springfield, MO 65807

KANSAS CITY |
816-861-4700

Kansas City VA Medical Center
4801 Linwood Blvd
Kansas City, MO 64128

BELTON | 816-922-2651

209 Cunningham Parkway
Belton, MO 64012

CAMERON | 816-922-2651

311 Little Brick Rd
Cameron, MO 64429

EXCELSIOR SPRINGS |
816-922-2970

197 North McCleary Rd
Excelsior Springs, MO 64024

KANSAS CITY - HONOR |
816-861-4700

4251 Northern Ave
Kansas City, MO 64133

NEVADA | 816-822-2635

1220 East Austin Blvd
Nevada, MO 64772

WARRENSBURG | 816-922-2165

702 E Young St
Warrensburg, MO 64093

LEAVENWORTH, KS |

913-682-2000

Eisenhower VA Medical Center
4101 4th St Trafficway
Leavenworth, KS 66048

PLATTE CITY | 913-758-6980

2303 Higgins RD, Suite F
Platte City, MO 64079

St. JOSEPH | 913-758-6925

4782 Sienna Dr
St. Joseph, MO 64506

POPLAR BLUFF |

573-682-4151

John J. Pershing Medical Center
1500 N Westwood Blvd
Poplar Bluff, MO 63901

CAPE GIRARDEAU | 573-686-4151

711 South Mount Auburn Rd
Cape Girardeau, MO 63703

FARMINGTON | 573-760-1365

1580 W. Columbia St
Farmington, MO 63640

SIKESTON | 573-472-2139

903 S Kings Highway
Sikeston, MO 63801

WEST PLAINS | 888-557-8262

1801 E State Route K
West Plains, MO 65775

ST.LOUIS | 314-652-4100

John Cochran Division
915 North Grand Blvd
St. Louis, MO 63106

Jefferson Barracks Division
1 Jefferson Barracks Dr
St. Louis, MO 63125

ST. CHARLES COUNTY |
314-286-6988

2845 Veterans Memorial Parkway
St. Charles, MO 63303

ST. LOUIS COUNTY |
314-286-6988

6854 Parker Rd
Florissant, MO 63033

ST. LOUIS - MANCHESTER |
314-652-4100 ext 56566

4974 Manchester Ave
St. Louis, MO 63110

ST. LOUIS - OLIVE ST. |

314-652-4100 ext 56540

3615 Olive St
St. Louis, MO 63108

ST. LOUIS - WASHINGTON AVE |
314-289-7659

2727 Washington Ave
St. Louis, MO 63103

WASHINGTON | 314-289-6988

1627 Aroy Dr
Washington, MO 63090



HOMELESSNESS



VA HOMELESS VETERAN PROGRAM COORDINATORS

Each VA Medical Center in Missouri has a Homeless Veterans Coordinator. The coordinator provides information about the services for homeless Veterans through the Veterans Health Administration. Each facility is unique and services vary among each medical center.

Homeless Veterans in need of assistance after hours when the coordinator is unavailable should contact the VA medical center's emergency room.

COLUMBIA | 573-814-6000

Harry S. Truman Memorial
800 Hospital Dr
Columbia, MO 65201-5297

LEAVENWORTH, KS 913-682-2000

Eisenhower VA Medical Center
4101 4th St Trafficway
Leavenworth, KS 66048

KANSAS CITY | 816-861-4700

Kansas City VA Medical Center
4801 Linwood Blvd
Kansas City, MO 64128

SPRINGFIELD | 844-501-8387

Gene Taylor VA Clinic
1850 West Republic Rd
Springfield, MO 65807

POPLAR BLUFF | 573-682-4151

John J. Pershing Medical Center
1500 N Westwood Blvd
Poplar Bluff, MO 63901

ST. LOUIS | 314-652-4100

Jefferson Barracks Division
1 Jefferson Barracks Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63125

VA HOMELESS VETERANS INITIATIVE

va.gov/homeless | 877-424-3838

The VA has a national call center for homeless Veterans to ensure homeless Veterans or Veterans at-risk for homelessness have free, 24/7 access to trained counselors. The hotline is intended to assist homeless Veterans and their families, VA Medical Centers, federal, state and local partners, community agencies, service providers and others in the community.

MISSOURI SUBSTITUTE ADDRESSES FOR HOMELESS VETERANS

Unless otherwise prohibited by law, a homeless Veteran may use a charitable, religious, fraternal, or Veterans organization as a substitute mailing address to receive state or federal assistance if the organization meets the following:

- The purpose of the organization is to provide charitable, religious, fraternal, or Veterans services.
- The organization has been providing these services for more than ten years
- The organization is willing to be the substitute address for the homeless Veteran

FREE CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR HOMELESS VETERANS EMPLOYMENT

The Missouri State Highway Patrol, at the designated Missouri State Identification Bureau, will provide, at no cost, a criminal background check in connection with gaining employment, housing, or any other service for any homeless Veteran.

LEGAL

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE GUIDES

mvc.dps.mo.gov/pdf/end-of-life-planning.pdf

This is an informational guide for Veterans and their spouses for assistance in considering choices with healthcare and matters surrounding the end of life.

ESTATE PLANNING CLINICS

mvc.dps.mo.gov/will-clinic-reservation/ | 573-751-3779

Throughout each year, Missouri Veterans Commission hosts clinics, which provide the following FREE services to Veterans and their spouses:

- Simple wills
- Living wills
- Powers of attorney
- Health care directives



MENTAL HEALTH



VETERANS CRISIS LINE

988 and PRESS 1 | veteranscrisisline.net | TEXT 838255

The Veterans Crisis Line is a resource that connects Veterans in crisis and their families and friends with qualified, caring VA responders. Free and confidential support is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, even if the Veteran is not registered with the VA or enrolled in VA health care. You can call, chat online or text.

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

dmh.mo.gov/veterans | 573-751-2368

Missouri's Service Members, Veterans, and their families face unique challenges: physical and mental trauma from deployments, separation from families, death, physical injuries, and invisible wounds of war to name a few. The Missouri Department of Mental Health is committed to serving those who serve and their families.

MISSOURI COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDER MAP

dmh.mo.gov/veterans

By providing a web-based interactive map, the Missouri Department of Mental Health helps connect the military community with clinicians that meet specific needs. Type in your address then use filters that best describe the health concern you have. The filter options include whether or not the provider accepts Tricare insurance and if they have experience with the military community.



STATE BENEFITS



INCOME TAX DEDUCTION FOR MILITARY RETIREMENT PENSION

military@dor.mo.gov

Beginning January 1, 2016, all military retirement pension income will be 100% deductible from Missouri Income Tax. (RSMo 143.124).

PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION

dor.mo.gov/military | 573-751-3505

Any citizen of Missouri who is a former Prisoner of War (POW) as defined by law, and who has a total service-connected disability, shall be exempt from owing taxes on all real property used as a homestead as defined by law.

PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX CREDIT

dor.mo.gov/personal/ptc

The Missouri Property Tax Credit Claim gives credit to certain senior citizens and certain 100% service-connected disabled individuals for a portion of the real estate taxes or rent paid for the year. If you are 100% service-connected disabled as a result of military service, you are not required to include your Veteran payments and benefits when filling out the tax credit application. You must attach a letter from the VA that states you are 100% service-connected disabled as a result of military service.

The credit is for a maximum of \$750 for renters and \$1,100 for owners who owned and occupied their home. If you rent from a facility that does not pay property taxes, you are not eligible for the Property Tax Credit.

HUNTING & FISHING PERMIT EXEMPTIONS

mdc.mo.gov/permits/veteran-benefits

The Missouri Department of Conservation recognizes the contributions and sacrifices made by veterans and active duty military and has approved several permit exemptions and low cost permits for active duty military and veterans. This includes:

- Any honorably discharged military veteran having a service-related disability of 60% or greater; or who was a prisoner of war; or currently assigned as a patient to a Warrior Transition Brigade, Warrior Transition Unit or a military medical center may hunt small game (will still need a migratory bird permit for doves) or fish without a permit (will still need a trout permit or trout park tag). The individual only needs to carry with them a letter from the U.S Department of Veterans Affairs.
- Any honorably discharged military veteran having a service-related disability of 60% or greater; or who was a prisoner of war; or currently assigned as a patient to a Warrior Transition Brigade, Warrior Transition Unit or a military medical center may receive permits at resident prices. The Warrior Transition Unit/Brigade would include programs such as the Wounded Warrior Program.

- Active duty military and their families stationed in Missouri qualify for resident permits, and resident active duty military and their immediate family stationed out of state qualify for Missouri resident permits.
- If an individual bought a Missouri hunting, fishing, or trapping permit and then couldn't use it for the full valid season because they were called to military duty out of state, they qualify for a free reinstatement of the permit privilege upon their return.
- Residents of Missouri who are currently, or have in the previous twelve (12) months, been mobilized and serving on full-time active military duty in either the National Guard (in Federal Status) or Reserve forces of the United States can hunt small game, fish, and trap with a lower-cost permit. The permit is only \$5.50 compared to \$19 for a regular small game and fishing permit.

Veterans are also encouraged to contact one of Missouri's four trout parks for these free fishing events specifically for service men and women.

MILITARY LIASON

dor.mo.gov/military | 816-236-9440 | military@dor.mo.gov

The Missouri Department of Revenue has designated a military liaison to assist military personnel with questions about Missouri income tax, driver licenses, motor vehicle registrations, and other issues.

COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE (CDL) EXAM EXEMPTION

dor.mo.gov/military

Missouri allows active duty and retired military personnel to complete an application for waiver of skills and written testing to obtain a commercial driver license. Applicant must have a minimum of 60 days active duty driving experience in a commercial motor vehicle for the military (not vehicle training) within the two years prior to date of application for waiver. The application is available online or acquired at a local license office.

VETERANS IDENTIFICATION ON DRIVERS LICENSE/STATE I.D. CARD

dor.mo.gov/faq/driver-license/veteran-designation.html

Any veteran of the United States military may choose to obtain the Veteran designation on the back of a Missouri driver or nondriver license.

Applicants requesting the Veteran designation must submit one of the following documents to verify Veteran status at the time of initial request for the driver or nondriver license with the new designation:

- A DD Form 214, that shows a discharge status of “honorable” or “general under honorable conditions” that establishes the person’s service in the Armed Forces of the United States
- DD Form 2, that includes a discharge status of “retired” or “reserve retired” establishing the person’s service in the Armed Forces of the United States
- Veterans Affairs photo identification card
- A discharge document (WD AGO 53, WD AGO 55, WD AGO 53-55, NAVPERS 553, NAVMC 78 PD, NAVCG 553, DD 215, or DD 256MC form) that shows a discharge status of “honorable” or “general under honorable conditions”

SPECIALTY PLATES

dor.mo.gov/motor-vehicle/plates/personalized-specialty.html

The Missouri Department of Revenue offers many options to personalize the license plates on your vehicle. Personalized plates allow you to select a configuration of up to 6 characters (depending on the type of plate and vehicle) to appear on your plate. You may now personalize and renew standard license plates online. Specialty plates provide similar license plate configuration options, but also offer plate designs with even more individuality, including plates showing support for colleges and universities, military personnel, charitable groups, and various other organizations.

Any surviving spouse of an individual who would have been eligible to obtain a United States Armed Forces, Coast Guard, Merchant Marines, Reserves, Missouri National Guard, or United States Marine Corps League special license plate may obtain the plate as long as the spouse does not remarry.

DISABLED VETERAN PLATES

dor.mo.gov/motor-vehicle/plates/disabled-veteran.html

To apply for disabled Veteran license plates, you must submit:

- A completed and signed Application for Missouri Military Personalized License Plates (Form 4601)
- A statement from the VA, no more than one year old, stating your

disability is service-connected. The letter must be directly from the VA, not a veteran's hospital or clinic. A letter from an attending physician at a Veteran's hospital or clinic is not acceptable documentation of a service-connected disability.

MISCELLANEOUS

DAV TRANSPORTATION NETWORK

dav.org/get-help-now/medical-transportation/ | 660-627-0328

Through the Transportation Network, DAV volunteers drive sick and disabled Veterans to and from VA medical facilities for treatment. Below are the contacts to see if transportation is available in your area.

GENE TAYLOR OPC | 417-466-0179

600 N. Main St., Room 244
Mt. Vernon, MO 65712

HARRY S TRUMAN MEDICAL CENTER | 573-814-6002

800 Hospital Dr., Room 538
Columbia, MO 65201

JOHN COCHRAN MEDICAL CENTER | 314-289-6443

915 N. Grand Blvd., Room A339D
St. Louis, MO 63106

JOHN J. PERSHING MEDICAL CENTER | 573-778-4616

1500 N. Westwood Blvd.
Poplar Bluff, MO 63901

KANSAS CITY VA MEDICAL CENTER | 816-922-2884

4801 Linwood Blvd, Room M1-569
Kansas City, MO 64128

MISSOURI VETERANS RECOGNITION WAR MEDALLION PROGRAM

moguard.ngb.mil/Resources/Veteran-Awards/ | 866-834-3431

The Missouri Veterans Recognition War Medallion Program provides a

medal, medallion, and certificate to Missouri residents who served in the following conflicts, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom, New Dawn, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Freedom's Sentinel, and Operation Allies Refuge. World II Veterans who participated in the D-Day invasion of Europe are also eligible to receive a replica of the Jubilee of Liberty medal. Missouri National Guard members may also apply for these medals whether or not they were residents of Missouri. Veterans, spouses of Veterans, or the eldest living survivor of the Veteran, who meet the requirements, may apply.

REPLACEMENT OF MEDALS

Requests for the issuance or replacement of military service medals, decorations, and awards should be directed to the specific branch of the military in which the Veteran served. A Veterans Service Officer can assist in filing for replacement medals and awards.

UNCLAIMED MILITARY MEDALS AND AWARDS

treasurer.mo.gov/military | 573-751-0123

The Missouri State Treasurer's Office currently holds over \$1 billion of unclaimed assets in over 10 million accounts. One in 10 Missourians has Unclaimed Property and the average return is nearly \$300. These assets are typically cash from bank accounts, stocks, bonds, and safe deposit box contents that have been abandoned. The contents of unclaimed safe deposit boxes may include military medals and insignia. On the State Treasurer's website, the Unclaimed Property Division posts the names and last known addresses of the safe deposit box owners, as well as photos of the military items in an effort to return these accolades to the heroes who earned them or their families. Learn more at ShowMeMoney.com.

MISSOURI NATIONAL GUARD RECORDS ARCHIVES

moguard.ngb.mil/Resources/Veteran-Services/ | 573-638-9683/9890

The Missouri National Guard Archives receives and maintains official military files on all retired or discharged Missouri National Guard members and Certificates of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214) for all Missouri Veterans that designated Missouri as their home of record at the time of discharge from 1942 to present date.

MISSOURI STATE MILITARY RECORDS ARCHIVE

s1.sos.mo.gov/RECORDS/ARCHIVES/ARCHIVESDB/SOLDIERS/

The archives hold military records of Missourians who served in domestic and foreign wars between 1812 and World War I and includes individual service cards, payrolls, muster and descriptive rolls, reproto, orders, and reparation claims.

REGISTERING TO VOTE AFTER DEADLINE

573-751-2301

If you have been discharged from military service, have returned from a military deployment or activation, or have separated from employment outside the territorial limits of the United States after the deadline to register to vote, and are otherwise qualified to register to vote, you may register to vote in-person before the election authority until 5:00 p.m. on the Friday before the election, by providing documentation showing evidence of qualifying for late registration. You may also vote on election day without prior registration for federal and state issues at your polling place with a federal postcard application. Call for eligibility requirements.

MINORITY VETERAN PROGRAM COORDINATORS

va.gov/centerforminorityveterans/mvpc/index.asp

The primary goal of this outreach initiative is to increase local awareness of minority Veteran related issues and develop strategies for increasing their participation in existing VA benefit programs for eligible Veterans. Minority Veterans Program Coordinator's are located at Regional Offices, Health Care Facilities and National Cemeteries and are responsible for:

- Promoting the use of VA benefits, programs, and services by minority Veterans
- Supporting and initiating activities that educate and sensitize internal staff to the unique needs of minority Veterans
- Targeting outreach efforts to minority Veterans through community networks
- Advocating on behalf of minority Veterans by identifying gaps in services and make recommendations to improve service delivery within their facilities

There is a Minority Veteran Program Coordinator (MVPC) located in each

state's VA regional office, health care facility and national cemetery to educate and assist with your eligibility of benefits and services.

WOMEN VETERANS COORDINATORS

benefits.va.gov/persona/veteran-women.asp

There are Women Veteran Coordinators (WVCs) located in every VA regional office who function as the primary contact for women Veterans. WVCs provide specific information and comprehensive assistance to women Veterans, their dependents, and beneficiaries concerning VA benefits and related non-VA benefits. They may assist you in the intake, development, and processing of military sexual and personal trauma claims.

MISSOURI REENTRY PROCESS (MRP)

doc.mo.gov/programs/missouri-reentry-process

MVC has collaborated with Missouri Department of Corrections to support MRP. MRP is designed to prepare offenders to be successful, productive, taxpaying citizens upon their release from prison. This endeavor requires an integrated network of support to help offenders address barriers to their success.

With the assistance of case managers/social workers, offenders within three to six months of release can be referred to a Veterans Service Officer, in the community where they will be living, who will assist them with their VA benefits.



VETERANS

BENEFITS & RESOURCES PORTAL

veteranbenefits.mo.gov

